

Appendix 4 Call for papers on Bride Price

International Conference on Bride Price and Development
February 2004, Kampala, Uganda

The institution of bride price, dowry and other related marriage gifts constitute some of the major harmful traditional practices that contribute to the subordinate status of women, undermining their rights and the rights of their families, and communities, leading to a greater tolerance of gender violence and contributing to violent conflict, HIV/AIDS, poverty and disability.

Although the institution of bride price in Africa has far-reaching, health, economic, social and, human rights and legal implications in the countries where it is practiced, there is much silence in the way of bringing it to the forefront of public debate both as an issue whose values constitute a direct violation of human dignity and freedom, and whose social practice is a hindrance to the enjoyment of human rights.

This conference will bring together experts in the fields of harmful socio-cultural practices which contribute to gender violence and inequality, experts on reproductive health and rights, activists on the rights of women and children, politicians and other stakeholders from Governments, intergovernmental agencies, academia, the media, civil society organisations and educationists.

The purpose is to develop a programme of action to reduce or remove the significance of bride price as a factor contributing to violence and gender inequality, hindering the improvement in the quality of life of families and the realisation of the rights of children in the countries where it is practiced.

CONFERENCE THEMES

Main Theme

Coalition and action to safeguard the child and the family:
The Kampala declaration on bride price and development.

Sub Themes

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Innovations around the world on harmful socio-cultural practices

Bride price and socio-economic development

Bride price and the protection of children from neglect violence and abuse

Bride price, sexual and reproductive health and rights / STI/HIV/AIDS

Bride price and gender violence

Men, masculinities and gender violence

Human rights/Legal/Strengthening Strategic Institutions

CALL FOR PAPERS

Applicants wishing to submit a paper under one of the sub-themes for the above conference should forward a 100 – 150 words synopsis by December 15th 2003 to:

The Conference Administrator
MIFUMI
Po Box 274
Tororo
Uganda

The Conference Administrator
PROMPT UK
BRUNSWICK COURT
BRUNSWICK SQUIRE
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0044 117 923 2035
0044 117 916 6451

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT www.mifumi.org

FEEL FREE NETWORK MEMBERS

Members of the Domestic Violence and Bride Price Feel Free Network wishing to attend should contact the Conference Administrator indicating how they will contribute to the conference.